

# Literacy Links

Volume VI, Issue 7

February 2006

## Coming Events:

- ELA Best Practice Seminar Series, Barry Lane February 2, 2006
- South Carolina International Reading Association Annual Conference, Myrtle Beach February 16-18, 2006
- ELA Best Practice Seminar Series, Chryse Hutchins March 2, 2006
- English I Curriculum Resource Follow Up March 3, 2006—  
CANCELED

For information about these programs, please refer to the articles in this issue of *Literacy Links*. This issue and past issues of *Literacy Links* can be found on the State Department's web page at [www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com).

## Inside this issue:

ELA Best Practice Seminar Series	2
English I Follow Up Sessions	3
New SAT Workshop	3
Conferences, Institutes and Workshops	4
Opportunities for Teachers and Students	5
Media Literacy	6
Building a Library	7

## Standards Support Sessions Change to Meet Needs of Teachers; Writing Teams Formed

Over 1300 teachers, administrators, literacy coaches, media specialists, special educators, and district office personnel attended sessions focusing on the understanding and implementation of the newly created support documents for the English language arts standards. These sessions were offered this fall by the English Language Arts team at the state Department. School Leadership Team members, Reading First (SCRF) and SCREADS coaches are charged with the responsibility of sharing the information from the sessions with those faculty and staff members who did not attend one of these sessions.

All of the newly created support documents may be downloaded from the State Department website ([www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)) by following this path: Offices/Curriculum and Standards/EnglishLanguageArts/2002EnglishLanguageArtsStandards/StandardsSupportDocuments.

The original plan for professional development for the support documents included spring sessions scheduled for January 25, February 6, and March 14, 2006 in addition to the fall sessions previously held. Based on feedback from session participants on the evaluations, **the spring sessions will not be held as planned**. Instead, smaller work groups will be formed this spring to allow interested people the opportunity to work on the development of additional unit modules for each grade level at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. These modules will be created and posted the State Department website no later than July 15, 2006.

**Interested participants should complete and return the application form included in this newsletter by the noon, February 6, 2006 deadline.**

**The March 3 English I follow up session with Janet Allen has been canceled.**

**Although three follow up sessions were originally scheduled, two follow up sessions for English I will be offered on April 18 and May 11, 2006.**

**If you registered for the January or March sessions, you will need to register for the May session.**

**The ELA Best Practice Seminar featuring Bruce Morgan on February 14, 2006, has been canceled and will not be rescheduled this school year.**

**The ELA Best Practice Seminar with Nancy Ahkavan has been rescheduled for April 6, 2006, and will be held at Columbia Conference Center.**

**Please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net) if you have questions about your registration for any of these sessions.**

## ELA Best Practice Seminars Continue in the New Year

Each year the English language arts (ELA) team in the Office of Curriculum and Standards at the State Department of Education (SDE), in conjunction with the South Carolina International Reading Association, hosts a series of ELA Best Practice seminars in the Columbia area.

Thus far, hundreds of teachers have learned from experts such as Cathy Toll, Patrick Allen, Cris Tovani, Ellin Keene, and South Carolina's own Frank Baker.

With the \$50 registration fee, participants receive a professional book of the speaker's choosing, lunch, and other materials. The professional book allows the participant to extend the learning from the day of the seminar.

**Session, date, or location changes are indicated in green on the chart.**

**Because of the speaker's inability to get to Columbia from California due to weather issues, the Nancy Akhavan seminar originally scheduled for December 8, had to be canceled. This session has been rescheduled for April 6, 2006, at the Columbia Conference Center. If you were registered for the December 8 session, you will automatically be registered for the April 6 session. If this presents a problem, please notify Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net).**

**The Best Practice session with Bruce Morgan has been canceled. It will not be rescheduled during the 2005-2006 school year. If you were registered for this session, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net) to register for another session or for a refund.**

A registration form with session information is attached to this newsletter. Please use this form to register for any remaining sessions and note that you may register for multiple sessions on the same form, but be aware of the registration deadlines listed.

**For questions regarding registration, contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net). For topic or presenter questions, contact Cathy Jones at [cjones@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us) or 803-734-0790.**

**In the event of inclement weather in the Columbia area, call 803-734-0790 after 6:00 p.m. the day prior to the session for cancellation information.**

**Directions for session locations are posted on the SDE website using the following path: [offices/CSO/ELA/Driving Directions](#).**

Date	Presenter	Audience	Topic	Location
February 2, 2006	Barry Lane	Middle/High	Voice Lessons in Non-Fiction Writing	Columbia Conference Center
<b>February 14, 2006 CANCELED</b>	<b>Bruce Morgan</b>	<b>Elementary/ Middle</b>	<b>Writing Through the 'Tween Years</b>	<b>Columbia Conference Center</b>
March 2, 2006	Chryse Hutchins	Elementary	Seven Keys to Comprehension	Seawell's
March 6, 2006	Jim Trelease	All	Reading Aloud	Columbia Conference Center
March 20, 2006	Lester Laminack	All	Children's Literature	Columbia Conference Center
March 21, 2006	Lester Laminack	Elementary/ Middle	Writing Workshop and Author's Craft	Columbia Conference Center
April 4, 2006	Barbara King-Shaver	Middle/High	When Text Meets Text—Helping High School Readers Make Connections in Literature	Columbia Conference Center
<b>April 6, 2006</b>	<b>Nancy Akhavan</b>	<b>Elementary</b>	<b>How To Align Literacy Instruction, Assessment, and Standards</b>	<b>Columbia Conference Center</b>

### Grant Writing Workshop Series Offered by State Department

Open only to currently employed public K-12 school and district personnel, this 15-hour series provides an introduction to grantsmanship, including seeking grant announcements to preparing a complete, effective grant proposal. The Grants Office at the State Department of Education (SDE) is offering this series.

Dr. Gail Widner, director of the SDE's Grant Office, will conduct each session. She has participated in training by Research Associates, The Foundation Center, The Grantsmanship Center, and Management Concepts.

Participants will earn one recertification/renewal credit hour by attending all parts of each session and taking both the pre-test and the post-test. Course materials will be distributed at the beginning of each session. No meals, beverages, or snacks will be provided, although you may bring your own.

The fee for the series is \$95 (non-refundable) per participant. Registration and payment must be received in the Grants Office by 5:00 p.m. on the deadline for registration. Late registration (\$125) is possible if space permits and seats are available.

**For more information, call 803-734-5810 or e-mail [grants@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:grants@sde.state.sc.us).**

## March English 1 Follow Up Session Canceled; Sessions Will Be Held in April and May

The ELA team at the State Department of Education is offering two follow up sessions during the spring semester of 2006 for the English I curriculum resource. These sessions are open to teachers and administrators who attended one of the original English I unveiling institutes in June or October of 2004.

These sessions will re-visit the six original modules. Because changes in content and organization have been made as teachers have used the resources, these modules have been revised.

**The January 17 session was postponed and rescheduled for May 11, 2006. If you currently registered for the January 17 session, your registration is changed to May 11. If you cannot attend the session on May 11, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net).**

**The March 3 session has been canceled because of a scheduled surgery that Janet Allen is having in February. The March date does not allow enough recovery time, so the session had to be canceled.**

The follow-up session scheduled for April 18, 2006, will be held as planned and a session for May 11 has been added to the list. All sessions will be held at the Columbia Conference Center. There is no charge for these sessions. Registration information is attached to this newsletter.

Dr. Janet Allen will return to lead these day-long sessions, which begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m.; lunch is provided.

The March session will explore three modules including the

*Whose Rights? What Responsibilities?* that uses *Nothing But the Truth* as the core text; *Ill-Fated Love*, the *Romeo and Juliet* module; and *Get Real*, the informational module that uses *It Happened to Nancy* as the core text. Please make sure you have re-read the core texts and literature circle texts for these modules prior to the session. The literature circle texts for *Ill-Fated Love* are *Romiette and Julio*, *Son of the Mob*, *Scribbler of Dreams*, and *If You Come Softly*. You will also want to bring your English I notebook. A new guide for these two modules will be provided.

**Please register by the deadline if you are interested in attending these sessions so that materials and food guarantees can be made. Space is still available for the remaining sessions. No onsite registration is available.**

A new institute for both English I and English 2 teachers and administrators and will be held at Brookland-Cayce High School, on June 5-8, 2006. More information will follow.

This four-day institute will begin each day with a keynote address from Dr. Allen. A variety of strategy sessions, focusing specifically on the strategies used in the curriculum resources will follow. During this institute, the sixteen modules (eight for English I and eight for English 2) will be presented. This institute is also offered at no cost to the participant.

**For information about these resources for English I and English 2, contact Allison Norwood at 803-734-2469 or [anorwood@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:anorwood@sde.state.sc.us). For registration information, contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net).**

## SAT Pre-Conference Session Offered at SCIRA

In collaboration with the South Carolina International Reading Association (SCIRA), the State Department of Education (SDE) is sponsoring, *Strategies for the Critical Reading and Writing Sections on the New SAT*, for high school teachers, literacy coaches, and administrators as a pre-conference session at the annual SCIRA conference in Myrtle Beach on Thursday, February 16, 2006.

This interactive, hands-on workshop will be presented by Bill Pell, who has taught English for 35 years at Spartanburg High School, where he is Chair of the English Department and the school wide curriculum specialist.

Mr. Pell will explore strategies for teaching students how to take the Critical Reading and Writing sections of the New SAT.

Recognizing that most students do not fully understand either the test's complicated structure or the special strategies required to help them score to their potential, he will provide information and activities in both of these areas.

**You should note that this pre-conference session is a repeat of the SAT pre-conference session held at the SCCTE conference.**

The workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel, the site of this year's SCIRA conference. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m.

**There is no cost for the session**, which includes lunch and a copy of *The Official*

*SAT Study Guide: For the New SAT*.

**To register for the session, complete the 2006 SCIRA conference registration form, which can be found at [www.scira.org](http://www.scira.org). Please note that this pre-conference is listed as an SDE Middle-High School Seminar with Suzette Lee; however, Bill Pell will present the session.**

**If you have questions about registration, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net).**

**If you have questions about this session, please contact Suzette Lee, Director of the Office of High School Redesign and SAT/ACT Improvement, at 803-734-6103.**

**The Office of Assessment has released an ELA HSAP prototype which may be accessed at [www.myschools.com/offices/assessment/Programs/HSAP/index.htm](http://www.myschools.com/offices/assessment/Programs/HSAP/index.htm). The HSAP prototype is a resource made available to districts, teachers, and students to use for the purpose of gaining a clearer understanding of the types of items that may appear on HSAP. Contact Jenny Howard at [jhoward@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:jhoward@sde.state.sc.us) if you have questions.**

## State Conferences Meet a Variety of Needs for Teachers

### SCIRA 2006 Conference

The 31st annual SCIRA conference, *Chasing Knowledge through the Pages of a Book*, will be held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center February 16-18, 2006.

The conference will kick off with a variety of pre-conference sessions. Option 1 allows participants to attend one of two all day sessions: an ELA Best Practice Seminar led by Barbara King Shaver or an SDE session on ACT/SAT Improvement. Option 2 offers a selection of afternoon sessions for all grade levels. **There is an additional charge for the pre-conference sessions and participants must register. There is no charge for the SAT session.**

Barbara King Shaver's session will address *Differentiated Instruction in the English Classroom*. She has recently retired after more than 30 years as a classroom teacher, supervisor, and administrator, in addition to serving an adjunct faculty member in the

Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University.

Shelley Harwayne will open the conference Thursday evening. Kyleene Beers is the keynote speaker for Friday and Carmen Deedy will close the conference on Saturday. Additional speakers include E.B. Lewis, Sharon D. Wyeth, Tim Rasinski, and Sneed Collard, in addition to the various breakout sessions offered.

**For registration information, visit [www.scira.org](http://www.scira.org).**

### SCMSA 2006 Conference

The SC Middle School Association's Annual conference for 2006 will be held March 3-5, at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center. The conference begins with a pre-conference session on March 3.

Sponsored by the State Department of Education, a session featuring Paula Miller will be offered. Her topic for this session is

"Thinking Strategies Across the Curriculum," and is a full day session open to all content area teachers. If your students balk when asked read textbooks and other nonfiction materials and you find yourself reading to your students, this is your session. Students need new sets of strategies to navigate their way through the expository texts required for content area course. This session looks at how to help students build reading confidence by learning to think about nonfiction text before, during, and after reading.

On Saturday, March 4, the keynote speaker is Mychal Wynn, a motivational speaker and expert in facilitating the process of school improvement. Linda Perlstein, author of *Not Much, Just Chillin'*, will present a realistic, compassionate, humorous, and practical approach to research about young adolescents on March 5.

**For more information, visit [www.scmsa.org](http://www.scmsa.org).**

## ELA AP Institutes Offered

The State Department of Education will sponsor Advanced Placement (AP) institutes during the summer of 2006.

**The courses, dates, and contact information are listed below. If you have any general questions about AP courses, please contact Marc Drews at [mdrews@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:mdrews@sde.state.sc.us).**

### English Language and Composition

Lexington Five, June 14-26, 2006  
Patsy Grimes, [pgrimes@lex5.k12.sc.us](mailto:pgrimes@lex5.k12.sc.us)  
803-732-8012, extension 170

### English Literature and Composition

USC-Aiken, June 2006 (specific dates TBA)  
Dr. Suzanne Ozment, Instructor  
Karen Morris, contact, [karenm@usca.edu](mailto:karenm@usca.edu)  
803-641-3489

### English Literature and Composition

Clemson, July 10-15, 2006, Monday through Saturday  
Dr. Michelle H. Martin, [mmichel@clemson.edu](mailto:mmichel@clemson.edu)  
864-656-3193

Once a teacher completes the coursework, he or she may request that the AP endorsement is placed on the teaching certificate. This process is also outlined on the Advanced Placement page.

## Paying for College Day 2006

Please join us for Paying for College Day 2006, to be held on Saturday, February 18, from 10 a.m. to 1p.m. The locations include Spartanburg Technical College, Richland County Public Library (Assembly Street), and Trident Technical College.

A team of college financial aid officers and other financial aid experts will be present to assist students in filling out the FAFSA and learning about federal, state, and private sources of financial aid.

Please bring the following items to the session so that appropriate forms may be accurately completed.

- Student's and parents' completed tax forms for 2005
- Person Identification Number (PIN); if the student or parent does not already have a PIN, it can be obtained at [www.pin.ed.gov](http://www.pin.ed.gov)
- Completed copy of the Pre-Application worksheet, available at [www.fafsa.ed.gov/fafsa67bw.pdf](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/fafsa67bw.pdf)

All attendees will be eligible to win a free IPOD and a \$500 scholarship at each location.

These sessions are sponsored by TRIO, South Carolina Student Loan Corporation, and South Carolina Association of Financial Aid Administrators.

**Registration for this workshop may be located at [www.scstudentloan.org](http://www.scstudentloan.org).**

## SC Book Festival Opens in Columbia

The Humanities Council of SC invites all teachers to attend and promote the 2006 South Carolina Book Festival on February 24-26, 2006, at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center in downtown Columbia.

The premier literary event in South Carolina, the SC Book Festival features over sixty-five authors in solo and panel presentations, over seventy vendors of books and book-related items, and much more. Special events on Friday include Master Classes and an Opening Night Preview

Cocktail Party (\$50 a ticket) and require registration online at [www.scbookfestival.org](http://www.scbookfestival.org). Events on Saturday and Sunday are free and open to the public.

Participating authors include Sandra Brown, Cassandra King, Mary Alice Monroe, Sharyn McCrumb, Ken McCullough, and Anne Rivers Siddons. There are also a variety authors including Andrea Weathers, Gene Fehler, Fran Hawke, Julie McLaughlin, and Kate Salley Palmer, Black Artemis, Millenia Black, Reshonda Tate

Billingsley, Collen Dixon, Byron Harmon, Brandon Massey, Electa Rome Parks, Dori Sanders, and Ian Smith, William Baldwin, Fitz Brundgae, Alexia Helsley, and Angie LeClercq, and over twenty South Carolina native authors.

**For a complete list of authors, events, schedules, and other information, please visit [www.scbookfestival.org](http://www.scbookfestival.org) or e-mail [bookfest@schumanities.org](mailto:bookfest@schumanities.org).**

## SC Writers Workshop Awards Juniors and Seniors

The South Carolina Writers Workshop is sponsoring Literary Awards in fiction and poetry writing. The first place winner in each category will receive \$100 and second place winners will receive \$25.

Students in grades 11 and 12 currently enrolled in a South Carolina school are eligible. Each student may enter one manuscript in each category, fiction and poetry. All entries must be original and must be postmarked on or before March 1, 2006.

Each work must be typed on 8 1/2 x 11 inch white paper with an entry form as a cover sheet. Fiction entries should be double-spaced and must not exceed 1750 words. Twelve point Times New Roman font is preferred.

**The student's name cannot appear on the entry itself. Please staple or clip pages together and number them. If you have questions, please contact Betty Beamguard at [bbeamguard@earthlink.net](mailto:bbeamguard@earthlink.net). Entries should be mailed to Betty Beamguard, SCWW Content Chair, 13671 W. Hwy. 55, York, SC 29745-8756.**

The cover sheet should contain the following information in this order:

Heading—South Carolina Writers Workshop, High School Junior/Senior, Literary Awards, Fiction and Poetry, Cover Sheet

Student Name, Title of Story or Poem, Grade, Student Phone, Student Address, City, State, Zip, Student E-mail, School Name, School Address, City, State, Zip, School Phone, School E-mail, Teacher or Contact Person, Teacher's E-mail Address

## SC Young Writers' Conference

The South Carolina Young Writers' conference will be held on March 25, 2006, at Ballentine Elementary School in Irmo. The Young Writers' Conference is designed for students in grades 3-12.

This year's featured authors are Anthony D. Fredericks, Bruce Hiscock, Will Hobbs, Sam Swope, Split P Poetry Group, and Carole Boston Weatherford. During the conference, authors will work with groups of students and talk about the writing process. The authors' books will be on sale at the conference and the authors will be available for autographing.

Conference information has been sent to all districts stating that preregistration is the responsibility of the district and is required for all students. District allotment information was also provided.

**If a district would like to send additional students, e-mail Judy Redman at [jredman@compodium.net](mailto:jredman@compodium.net). Some school districts may not use their quota, and those spaces will be redistributed. Names of students must be submitted by no later than February 28, 2006.**

**If you have any questions about the conference, please contact Caroline Savage at 803-734-4770 or [csavage@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:csavage@sde.state.sc.us).**

## Oklahoma City Memorial Sponsors National Essay Contest

The Oklahoma City National Museum and Memorial sponsors an essay contest for students in grades 5-12. The contest is divided into four grade levels, with three winners at each level. The deadline for entries is March 1, 2006.

Students are given a quote about which to write. Each quote is designed to challenge students to reflect on their personal experiences and look to the future for ways they can make an impact on the world around them.

This year's topics

5th-6th grades: "Each of us has a spark of life inside us, and we must set off that spark in one another." Kenny Ausubel

7th-8th grades: "Your spark can become a flame and change everything." E.D. Nixon

9th-10th grades: "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all." Dale Carnegie

11th-12th grades: "It isn't enough to talk about peace, one must believe it. And it isn't enough to believe in it, one must work for it." Eleanor Roosevelt.

**For more information, call 1-888-542-HOPE or visit [www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org](http://www.oklahomacitynationalmemorial.org)**



# Making Media Literacy a Part of the ELA Classroom

By Frank Baker  
Media Educator

## Why Teach Viewing (Media Literacy)?

I am often asked this question and I would like to use this space to provide an answer that I hope will help teachers and administrators better appreciate media literacy and its place in the classroom. In 2006, more young people than ever are exposed to media messages. Yet, in American classrooms, we spend little time teaching about media in proportion to print. Our professional development workshops generally include print, but often times neglect non-print media. Heidi Hayes Jacobs has said that if the video is the world most of our young people pay attention to, shouldn't we be teaching them how to scriptwrite (for example)? Writing in *Middle Ground Journal*, media educator David Considine said, "In ignoring advertising, TV, movies, video games, and contemporary music, we are in fact ignoring a significant part of the nature and needs of our students." I could not agree more. When we pull back the curtain on how the media work, we help young people appreciate the way it influences, persuades, entertains, and informs. When we give students the chance to create and produce their own media messages, we help them appreciate the power, process, and the key decisions required to make, present, and display media. If you want to know more about starting to teach "viewing," see the resources from the November 2005 Best Practice Seminar Series at <http://medialit.med.sc.edu/presentations.htm> or contact me at [fbaker1346@aol.com](mailto:fbaker1346@aol.com).

## Literacy for the 21st Century: An Overview and Orientation Guide to Media Literacy Education

The Center for Media Literacy has created a 45 page document designed to help introduce teachers to media literacy education and offer concrete ideas for classroom implementation. It features

- Techniques for "Questioning the Media" and includes a list of "Essential Questions for Teachers."
- Explanations in plain language, charts and handouts, the basic elements of inquiry-based media literacy
- In-depth explanations and the foundational role of the Five Key Questions of Media Literacy

- A sample inquiry into visual language: "How to Conduct a 'Close Analysis' of Media Text"

To download a guide, go to [http://www.medialit.org/reading\\_room/article540.html](http://www.medialit.org/reading_room/article540.html).

## New Website Exposes How Magazine Cover Images are Manipulated

Every month, hundreds of magazines place attractive models or celebrities on the covers. Many of us purchase these magazines based on the cover images and the stories they promote. But how many of us (or our students) realize the arduous process of airbrush, touch up, and manipulating images? A new web page does just that. (Teachers, preview this site before use with students). The site is <http://demo.fb.se/e/girlpower/retouch/>. For additional resources on this topic, see Frank Baker's website "Is Seeing Believing?" at <http://medialit.med.sc.edu/isb.htm>.

## March 21 USC Lecture: Advertising's Impact on Women

Mark your calendar for March 21; that's the date media critic Jean Kilbourne is coming to the University of South Carolina to lecture on advertising and its impact. An 8 p.m. talk "Deadly Persuasion: Advertising and Addiction" will be presented at USC's Russell House Ballroom. Kilbourne is the most sought after lecturer on college campuses today. Her book, *Can't Buy My Love*, and videos, *Killing Me Softly* and *Slim Hopes*, are widely used in college and high school classrooms. To learn more about Jean Kilbourne, go to [www.jeankilbourne.com](http://www.jeankilbourne.com). Having your students analyze advertising, whether from the web, radio, TV, or print is a great way to meet the ELA teaching standards. For lesson plan suggestions and activities, go to <http://medialit.med.sc.edu/advertising.htm>.

## Total Film Magazine Presents "100 Greatest Movies of All Time"

The UK produced film magazine, *Total Film*, has come out with its 100 Greatest Movies of All Time. The slick magazine-like book is a comprehensive look at these films. The monthly publication is also carried by many Barnes and Noble and Borders bookstores. The book \$20, is available for order from [http://totalfilm.com/movie\\_news/who\\_is\\_the\\_greatest](http://totalfilm.com/movie_news/who_is_the_greatest).

## Young Filmmakers Competition and Showcase: Columbia Film Society

South Carolina's middle and high school students are invited to submit short films for the annual Young Filmmakers Competition and Showcase. The Showcase is a collaboration between The Nickelodeon Theatre and The Columbia Museum of Art. Filmmakers are invited to submit their short films in VHS or DVD format. The suggested length is under five minutes and the maximum length, in order to be considered, is fifteen minutes. This year's theme, *Stories from Home*, was inspired by a piece of art from the Museum's permanent collection. Films should be somehow related to the concept of "home." (Examples: what happens at home, what home means to you, how all homes are different, etc.) Prizes will be awarded by a professional jury and award winners will be shown at The Nickelodeon on April 29, and at the Museum on April 30. Entries must be received at the Nick by Monday, April 10. A workshop to encourage and answer questions will be held on March 18 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Columbia Museum of Art at Main and Hampton Streets.

## Grants to Integrate Literacy with Personal and Civic Action

Starbucks Foundation Grants fund programs that integrate literacy with personal and civic action in the communities where they live. The maximum award is \$5,000. 501(c)3 organizations that work with underserved youth ages 6-18 in the fields of literacy (reading, writing, and creative/media arts) and environmental literacy are eligible. The deadline is March 1, 2006. Information can be found at <http://www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp>.

## New Report "Smart and Good High Schools" Recommends Media Literacy

A new report, "Smart and Good High Schools—Integrating Excellence and Ethics for Success in School, Work and Beyond?" Includes a strong recommendation for media literacy education. The report, co-produced by the Center for the 4th and 5th Rs and the Character Education Partnership, has received unprecedented praise. To read Chapter One and the reference to media literacy, see <http://www.cortland.edu/character/highschools/chapters/chapter1.pdf>.

## Reading First Cohort Reflects on Their Partner Teaching Experiences

**What was is not and never again will be; what is is change.**

Edwin Way Teale

As the year 2005 was drawing to an end, the South Carolina Reading First coaches in Diane Stephens' cohort spent time reflecting and celebrating. The coaches and their partner teachers were asked to write about what they had learned from their partner teaching experience. The coaches were also asked to reflect on the progress their schools had made in developing print rich book rooms and classroom libraries.

**Becky Corbin**, the literacy coach at Clinton Elementary in Laurens 56 writes:

"The school year together was an exceptional journey. My teaching partner and I had some lofty goals and not all were accomplished because we focused on the important things. By the end of the year, we had witnessed so many wonderful things about our children as readers. Our children would devour books. It was actually a problem to keep enough books in their hands to satisfy their curious minds."

Becky's partner teacher **Angela Waldrop** wrote the following about this experience:

"Becky was someone who stepped back and let the attention go to our students. She taught all of us (me included) to listen, watch, discuss, and learn from each other. Becky kept expectations for our students simple but challenging as she let them take the spotlight and gave them time to figure out problems themselves. She gave students the opportunity to read, showed the students how to discuss text and let them go. The students questioned, connected, inferred, and envisioned text so easily by being given the time to learn together. Students felt confident and important. Students were set free and so was I. My teaching has been changed forever."

**Sandy Cook**, the literacy coach at East Elementary in Dillon 200 writes about her teaching experience.

"I was so fortunate to be paired with Bonne Rasmussen during my partner teacher experience. Above all, Bonne is a learner. She takes a learner's stance in all she does. She showed me, through constant demonstration, how to learn alongside kids, as well as from them. She taught me how to listen with a thoughtful ear and look at everything through the eyes of a child."

**Bonne Rasmussen** closed her reflections with three pluses and a wish.

1. My partner teacher has helped me to see, feel, and enjoy reading in a whole new way. Teaching with her has helped my students to feel this as well.
2. My partner teacher has opened my eyes to a world of wonderful authors. She has shown me that children can meet your reading expectations so set high goals for them and teach them to challenge themselves.
3. My class is a community of learners, friends, and supporters because of her.

My one wish....I wish my partner teacher and I could have taught together another year.

**Sheila Shelby**, literacy coach at Hyatt Park Elementary in Richland One wrote:

"Despite the uncertainties both my partner teacher and I felt, we learned to read each other and developed a collegial working relationship, much like a new married couple. The partner teacher year was one of reflection and revision for me. The more I learned, the more I questioned my practices and revised them to align with shifts in my beliefs about how children learn."

**Betty Brown**, Sheila's partner teacher writes:

"We both agreed to put a strong emphasis on placing children first. We spent a great deal of time developing a supportive and nurturing classroom community. We stressed the importance of being respectful to each other. We modeled this behavior toward each other as well as among the students. Without care and respect for each other as professionals, the co-teaching practices would not have been as effective and meaningful to me. I value the experience I had as a partner teacher. It is one that I will cherish and continue to grow from."

**Christine Brown**, a teacher at Alma Elementary in Cherokee County writes:

"If I were asked to choose one word to describe the impact my partner teaching experience had on me, it would be 'empowering.' Kim Camp brought a wealth of knowledge, experiences, and best practices to my classroom. Through cooperative planning and implementation of these practices, I have been nurtured professionally. Together we kid-watched, reflected, discussed, adjusted our teaching, and thoughtfully planned in order to meet the needs of each student in our room. I am excited about the 'power' I now feel in knowing that I must know my learners well, and gear my instruction around my students' needs."

**Kim Camp**, literacy coach at Alma writes:

"Change affects us all. Change causes us to be reflective and responsive. Change causes us to move forward. Change causes us to transform our ideas and thinking. It is clear that change is altering and transforming the way we teach and support learners in South Carolina. This year starts my sixth year as a literacy coach. Yet, I believe the biggest part of my growth and change occurred during my past year. I credit my biggest growth and change as a professional to having the opportunity to implement all I have learned in a second grade class at Alma Elementary. My learning increased; Christine, my partner who was a three-year SCRI participant, increased her knowledge. Our excitement and new learning spread to our students and to our colleagues in our monthly book clubs."

**To learn and never be filled, is wisdom; to teach and never be weary, is love.**

## Coaches Share School Book Rooms and Classroom Libraries

The South Carolina Reading First literacy coaches in Diane Stephens' cohort reflected on and shared photos of their schools' book rooms and classroom libraries. The schools learned about the value of having these centers from some of our national experts.

When the coaches were asked to take photos of their school's book room and classroom libraries, they discovered that there was much to celebrate.

### South Carolina Reading First Book Rooms

In *What Really Matters for Struggling Readers*, **Dick Allington** says:

"The school book room is a wonderful innovation, but it does take collaborative planning and a sense of sharing. A five year plan seems appropriate for bringing the book room up to speed, but every subsequent annual budget should have some money allocated to book room purchasing (there is always wear and tear and always good new texts available)."

In *Conversations*, **Regie Routman** says:

"If literature is our primary vehicle for teaching reading, you will want to devise some sort of manageable system for organizing your school and district collection. Decisions need to be made regarding purchasing, housing, organizing, maintaining, borrowing, and inventorying books."



**Christine Brown sorts the big books for the Alma Elementary book room in Cherokee County.**



**Richland One's Mill Creek Elementary book room.**



**Book room at Eastside Elementary in Laurens 56.**



**Book room at Thornwell School for the Arts in Hartville, Darlington County School District.**



### South Carolina Reading First Classroom Libraries

In *The Reading Workshop*, **Frank Serafini** says:

"One of the biggest physical design decisions we will have to make at the beginning of the year is where to put the classroom library and how to arrange it. The library will serve as a central focus for our community of readers, and it must be not only functional, but aesthetically pleasing as well."

In *On Solid Ground*, **Sharon Taberski** says:

"I believe that 1,500 is about the right number of books to have in each classroom."



**Classroom library at Richland One's A.J. Lewis Greenview Elementary School.**



**A classroom library in Florence 3's J.C. Lynch Elementary School.**



**Classroom library at Richland One's A.J. Lewis Greenview Elementary School.**



**Classroom library at Richland One's A.J. Lewis Greenview Elementary School.**



**A classroom library at Lake City Elementary in Florence School District 3.**

ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
ARTS TEAM  
OFFICE OF CURRICULUM  
AND STANDARDS  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

Cathy Jones,  
Interim Co-Coordinator  
801-E Rutledge Building  
1429 Senate Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
cjones@sde.state.sc.us  
803-734-0790

Pam Wills,  
Interim Co-Coordinator  
802-B Rutledge Building  
1429 Senate Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
pwills@sde.state.sc.us  
803-734-8391

[www.myscschools.com](http://www.myscschools.com)

The Office of Curriculum and Standards provides statewide leadership and services to schools and districts to ensure the implementation of grade-level standards-based instruction for all students.

We accomplish this by:

- developing and revising academic standards and expanding support materials;
- promoting the use of effective evidence-based instructional practices by schools and districts; and
- facilitating the implementation of programs, projects, grants, and activities that support standards-based instruction

## State Department of Education Events

### February 2006

#### *African American History Month*

- 2 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 14 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 16-18 SCIRA Conference, Myrtle Beach
- 18 Science Olympiad, Newberry College
- 24-25 SC Council for Exceptional Children Annual Convention, Myrtle Beach
- 28 Carolina First Palmetto's Finest Awards Ceremony, Columbia

### March

#### *Women's History Month Irish American Heritage Month*

- 1-3 SC Association of School Librarians Conference, North Charleston
- 2 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 3-5 SC Middle School Association Conference, Myrtle Beach
- 6 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 18 South Carolina Day
- 20 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 21 ELA Best Practice Seminar, Columbia
- 31 Global Education Day



English  
Language Arts Team

# English Language Arts Team

**Office of Curriculum and Standards  
Division of Curriculum Services and Assessment  
State Department of Education**

**1429 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201**

**Fax: 803-74-6142**

**[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)**

Cathy Jones	<b>Interim Co-Coordinator,</b> ELA Team (ELA Standards Implementation and Other ELA Services)	801-E	803-734-0790	<a href="mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us">cjones@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Pam Wills	<b>Interim Co-Coordinator,</b> ELA Team (South Carolina Reading First and South Carolina Reading Initia- tives)	802-B	803-734-8391	<a href="mailto:pwills@sde.state.sc.us">pwills@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Pat Branham	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading First	801 F	803-734-4326	<a href="mailto:pbranham@sde.state.sc.us">pbranham@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Bev Collom	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading First	801-H	803-734-7939	<a href="mailto:bcollom@sde.state.sc.us">bcollom@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Pam Huxford	Elementary ELA Consultant; SC Reading Recovery, Coordinator; SC Reads; SCRF Intervention	802-A	803-734-8825	<a href="mailto:phuxford@sde.state.sc.us">phuxford@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Allison Norwood	Secondary ELA Consultant; Applied Academics; English 1 and 2 Curriculum Re- source Projects; SCRI-HS	916-A	803-734-2469	<a href="mailto:anorwood@sde.state.sc.us">anorwood@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Caroline Savage	Middle Grades ELA Consultant; SCRI-MG Phases 1 and 2	802-D	803-734-4770	<a href="mailto:csavage@sde.state.sc.us">csavage@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Pat Lail	Administrative Specialist	802	803-734-8155	<a href="mailto:plail@sde.state.sc.us">plail@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Sue Ondera	Administrative Specialist	801	803-734-5803	<a href="mailto:sondera@sde.state.sc.us">sondera@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Debbie Tison	Administrative Specialist	926	803-734-2862	<a href="mailto:dtison@sde.state.sc.us">dtison@sde.state.sc.us</a>
Gail Tyndale	Administrative Specialist	803	803-734-8556	<a href="mailto:gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us">gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us</a>

## **Registration Form**

### **2005-06 English Language Arts Best Practice Seminars**

A series of seminars highlighting best practices in the area of English language arts will be offered during the 2005-2006 school year to South Carolina K-12 educators by the English Language Arts Team in the Office of Curriculum and Standards at the State Department of Education and the South Carolina Council of the International Reading Association (SCIRA). A schedule of the sessions, dates, audiences, and locations is included with this registration form.

Please check the registration chart for the location of each session, as the locations vary. Each session will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

**Instructions:** To register for any of these seminars, please complete the form on the next page and mail it and a **check made payable to SCIRA for \$50.00 for each session for which you are registering** to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. Payment is due with registration. No purchase orders will be accepted. Participation will be on a first-come with check, first-served basis. A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. Directions to the session locations are posted to the State Department of Education website at [www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com).

**If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net), or fax at 803-329-1952. If you have any questions concerning particular sessions, contact Cathy Jones at 803-734-0790 or [cjones@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us).**



# Registration Form

## 2005-06 English Language Arts Best Practice Seminars

*Please indicate with an "X," the session(s) you wish to attend.*

<b>X</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Date/Presenter</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>FULL</b>	<b>8</b>	March 2, 2006 Chryse Hutchins	February 16, 2006	Seawell's
<b>FULL</b>	<b>9</b>	March 6, 2006 Jim Trelease	February 20, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	<b>10</b>	March 20, 2006 Lester Laminack	March 6, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	<b>11</b>	March 21, 2006 Lester Laminack	March 7, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	<b>12</b>	April 4, 2006 Barbara King-Shaver	March 21, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	<b>13</b>	April 6, 2006 Nancy Akhavan	March 19, 2006	Columbia Conference Center

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

School E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Form**  
***Framing Best Practice:***  
***English 1 Curriculum and Instruction***

**Four English I Curriculum Resource Follow Up Sessions**

This professional development is for English 1 teachers and school and district curriculum leaders who attended one of the initial English 1 two-day sessions.

**Instructions:** To register for these sessions, please complete this form and mail or e-mail it to Judy Redman at Post Office Box 10101, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731. *Please indicate the session(s) you will attend by placing an X in the column beside the date(s) of the session(s) you wish to attend.* A confirmation e-mail will be sent to registrants with directions and details for the institute. Unless you receive a confirmation, do not consider yourself registered. **If you have any questions concerning your registration, please contact Judy Redman at [jredman@comporium.net](mailto:jredman@comporium.net). If you have any questions concerning these sessions, contact Allison Norwood at 803-734-2469 or [anorwood@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:anorwood@sde.state.sc.us).**

Registration	Session	Registration Deadline	Location
	April 18, 2006 Revisit Modules	April 3, 2006	Columbia Conference Center
	<b>May 11, 2006 Revisit Modules</b>	<b>May 1, 2006</b>	<b>Columbia Conference Center</b>

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

District \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

School E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Home Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Home E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

## English Language Arts Instructional Module Development Sessions

The English language arts team (ELA) at the State Department of Education (SDE) is establishing work groups to develop additional English language arts instructional modules based on the *South Carolina English Language Arts Curriculum Standards 2002*. Modules will be created for all grades at the elementary, middle, and high school (English 3 and 4) levels. Those teachers and administrators interested in developing additional modules may apply to serve on a grade level writing team.

Anyone may apply to participate in the work groups for developing the modules but in order to be representative of all areas of the state, it is likely that only one person per district per level will be selected to participate. Please use the attached form to apply. **The deadline for applications is Monday, February 6, 2006 by noon.** If you choose to apply, please hold the work dates on your calendar until you are notified of your selection. Participants selected to serve on a writing team will be notified via email on February 13, 2006. The first work session is scheduled for February 21, 2006. In order to be selected, participants must commit to attending all three work session dates and be available to assist with professional development on the modules during the fall of 2006.

Travel, lodging, and substitute expenses will be reimbursed by the SDE if allowable. Please make sure to sign the participant agreement and to include a school's or district administrator's signature on your application

Completed registration forms may be e-mailed to Gail Tyndale at [gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us) or faxed to 803.734.6142 **no later than noon on February 6, 2006**. If you have any questions concerning this information, please contact Cathy Jones at 803.734.0790 or [cjones@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:cjones@sde.state.sc.us). **All sessions will be held in Columbia.** Specific locations, times, and directions will be sent to those selected to participate.

### Work Session Schedule:

Session	Date
Session 1	February 21, 2006
Session 2	March 14, 2006
Session 3	March 15, 2006*
Professional Development	Fall 2006

\* Additional work sessions may be scheduled if needed.

## Application Form for Participation Instructional Module Development Work Groups

Please provide the following information if you wish to apply to participate in the instructional module development work groups. In order to be considered for selection, this application must be received **no later than noon February 6, 2006**. It may be faxed (803.734.6142) or e-mailed to Gail Tyndale ([gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us](mailto:gtyndale@sde.state.sc.us)).

<b>Name</b>		
<b>Position</b>	<b>Grade Level(s)</b>	
<b>District</b>	<b>School</b>	
<b>School address</b>		
<b>Home address</b>		
<b>Area code and telephone</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Home</b>
<b>Email address</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Home</b>
<b>Fax number</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Home</b>

I understand that in order to be selected, I must commit to attending all three work sessions and be available to assist with professional development on the modules during the fall of 2006.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**School or District Approval**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Position\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_